

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Ohio

In the Matter of the Search of

(Briefly describe the property to be searched
or identify the person by name and address)Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US,
postmarked February 10, 2014, weighing 2 pounds 9.8 ounces,
addressed to R. Smith, 605 Tina Way, Livermore, CA 94550 with a
return address of Javin Hill, 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti,
OH 45225

Case No.

1:14MJ -101

APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US

located in the Southern District of Ohio, there is now concealed (identify the person or describe the property to be seized):

Controlled Substances, materials and documents reflecting the distribution of controlled substances through the U.S. Mails, including money and/or monetary instruments paid for controlled substances

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (check one or more):

- ☒ evidence of a crime;
☒ contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;
☐ property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;
☐ a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of: Title 21

Code Section	Offense Description
841 (a) (1), 843 (b) & 846	Conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance
	Possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

The application is based on these facts:

See attached affidavit of U.S. Postal Inspector O'Neill

- ☒ Continued on the attached sheet.
☐ Delayed notice _____ days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days: _____) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.



Applicant's signature

Karen L. O'Neill, U. S. Postal Inspector

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 2/13/14



Judge's signature

City and state: Cincinnati, Ohio

Honorable Karen L. Litkovitz
United States Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
CINCINNATI, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO)
) SS
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF SEARCH WARRANT

I, KAREN O'NEILL, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN, DEPOSE AND STATE: I am a United States Postal Inspector, having been so employed since March 2003. I am presently assigned to the Cincinnati Field Office, Pittsburgh Division of the Postal Inspection Service with investigative responsibility for Southwest Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Southeast Indiana. Part of my investigative responsibility involves the use of the United States Mail in the transporting of narcotics and other dangerous controlled substances and financial proceeds relating thereto.

Your affiant has become aware that drug traffickers frequently use Express Mail, a business-oriented overnight service offered by the United States Postal Service, to transport narcotics and other dangerous controlled substances, and their proceeds or instrumentalities from the sale of the controlled substances. Your affiant has also become aware that drug traffickers frequently use Priority Mail with delivery confirmation, a 2-3 day service offered by the United States Postal Service. As a result of investigations and successful controlled substance prosecutions where the Mail was used, your affiant has learned of certain characteristics indicative of other Mail items previously identified as containing narcotics or other dangerous controlled substances, their proceeds or instrumentalities from the sale of the controlled substances. Some of these characteristics include, but are not necessarily limited to or used on every occasion, the mailer using different post offices on the same day to send parcels, false or non-existent return address, addressee is not known to receive mail at the listed delivery address, the package is heavily taped, the package is mailed from a known drug source location, labeling information contains misspellings, the label contains an illegible waiver signature, unusual odors emanating from the package, and the listed address is located in an area of known or suspected drug activity.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant learned that Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US was located going to Livermore, California coming from Cincinnati, Ohio. The parcel is being mailed to northern California; known drug source area.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant contacted the post office of mailing and requested a copy of the label.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant received a copy of the mailing label. The parcel is addressed to R. Smith, 605 Tina Way, Livermore, California 94550 with a return address of Javin Hill, 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti, OH 45225.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant did a check in Accurint on the addressee address 605 Tina Way, Livermore, California 94550. According to Accurint, "Smith" is associated with that address.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant did a check in Accurint on the return address 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti, OH 45225. According to Accurint, the name "Hill" is not associated with 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti, OH 45225. Your affiant also did a check for the name "Javin Hill" in Cincinnati, Ohio and there were no records found with that name.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant contacted the Corryville Post Office, Cincinnati, Ohio regarding the return address 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti, OH 45225. Your affiant requested the names of all persons receiving mail in apartment 5.

On February 11, 2014, your affiant contacted the Livermore Post Office, Livermore, California regarding Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US. Your affiant spoke to a supervisor and requested to have the parcel sent to her location for further investigation.

On February 12, 2014, your affiant obtained Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US from the Cincinnati Postal Processing & Distribution Center.

On February 12, 2014, your affiant was contacted by the manager of the Corryville Post Office regarding the return address 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5, Cinti, OH 45225. Your affiant learned that apartment 5 is vacant.

On February 12, 2014, the Cincinnati Police Department Narcotics Unit was contacted to arrange for a narcotic canine to check the parcel. Officer Phil Stoup responded to the Cincinnati Postal Inspection Service office, Cincinnati, Ohio where the parcel was placed in a controlled area and presented to narcotic canine, "Max". "Max" alerted positively to the presence or odor of a controlled substance or their proceeds or instrumentalities upon Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US addressed to R. Smith, 605 Tina Way, Livermore, California 94550. Attached herewith, and made part hereof by reference, is a photocopy of the narcotic canine handler's record of examination.

The parcel is further identified as follows: a U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail cardboard box 12" x 12" x 5 1/2" in size, bearing Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US, weighing 2 pounds 9.8 ounces, postmarked February 10, 2014; see address information below:

Sender: Javin Hill
1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5
Cinti, OH 45225

Addressee: R. Smith
605 Tina Way
Livermore, CA 94550

This information, along with the positive alert of narcotic canine "Max" is indicative of a drug package or its proceeds.

Based on the information contained herein, your affiant believes that contained in Priority Mail Express parcel label number EF014987133US is a quantity of a narcotic or other dangerous controlled substance, their proceeds or instrumentalities.

Therefore, a search warrant to open the parcel is requested.

Further, your affiant sayeth naught.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

Karen O'Neill
Postal Inspector

Subscribed and sworn to and before me this 13 day of Feb., 2014.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen L. Litkovitz", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Karen L. Litkovitz
United States Magistrate Judge



United States Postal Inspection Service
Pittsburgh Division

OFFICER AFFIDAVIT

I, Officer P. Skup, am and have been employed by the CINCINNATI POLICE DEPT since 1993. Among other duties, I am currently the assigned handler of narcotics detection canine "May" which is trained and certified in the detection of the presence or odor of narcotics described as follows:

MARIJUANA, COCAINE, HEROIN, AND METHAMPHETAMINE

On 2-12-14, at the request of Postal Inspector K. O'Neill, I responded to Cincy Postal Insp office, where "May" did alert to and

indicate upon: [describe item]

EF 014987133US addressed to R Smith 605
Timberway Lufkinmore CA 94550 with a return address
Javin Hill 1928 Westwood Northern Blvd #5 Cincinnati Ohio
45225

Which, based upon my training and experience and that of "May", indicates there is contained within or upon the above described item, the presence or odor of a narcotic or other controlled substance.

[Signature] 02/12/14
(Signature and Date)

[Signature] 2-12-14
(Signature and Date)